

Mid-Winter Furs

The New Close Clinging Coats That Add No Breadth to the Plump--The New Fur Scarves and Purple Moleskins



The New "Pierrette" Effect in Broad Fur Bands.

LADY DUFF-GORDON, the famous "Lucile" of London, and foremost creator of fashions in the world, writes each week the fashion article for this newspaper, presenting all that is newest and best in styles for well-dressed women.

Lady Duff-Gordon's new Paris establishment brings her into close touch with that centre of fashion.

Lady Duff-Gordon's American establishment is at Nos. 37 and 39 West Fifty-seventh street, New York

By Lady Duff-Gordon ("Lucile")

WHAT woman can resist the lure of the fur coat! And never were fur-trimmed coats and fur wraps so luxurious as they are to-day. The new coats, made of the lovely, ever-so-supple skins, are draped in all manner of ways. There is no longer any reason for the stout woman to dread wearing a coat even of sable or mink, for, under the new treatment of the pelts, the coats are made to cling closely to the figure, and no longer do they add great breadth to the wearer.

Time was when the wearer of a fur coat looked opulent and luxurious, but stout. Look at the two fur coats I am sending you this week and you can readily see how graceful

their lines and how delightfully they lend themselves to the figures within them.

The strikingly beautiful ermine and broadtail garment is suitable for reception or evening wear. The upper section is made of the fascinating tailless ermine. The muff is also of this fur. The lower part of the coat is, in a way, a deep shaped sounce attached to the upper section. The whole affair is curiously draped from the shoulders. The collar is a strip of the fur finished with a heavy tassel. This collar is just twisted once about the neck, in much the same manner that one would twist a hunting stock.

This wrap looks its best when worn by a tall, slender woman. Mrs. Edward B. McLean, of Washington, for whom I designed this superb coat, wears it most gracefully.

In the picture shown here the hat is a small boyish affair of the black broadtail. Mrs. McLean, however, usually tops it with a smart black velvet hat decorated with aigrettes. Equally chic, but on different lines, is the dyed moleskin wrap over a dull purple crepe de chine flounced with the moleskin. As I have said in earlier letters, the dyed furs in light colors are effective when used as trimming, but only dark colors should be used in the making of coats.

Moleskin takes a very rich blue or purple. That shown here is purple. The fur collar and cuffs, the muff and the band outlining the coat are of blue fox. The hat is moleskin.

In making, or, rather, in creating this quaint coat of a slender debutante, I used a deep shade of blue duvety. The sleeves fastened closely about the wrists, are the very chic Babst sleeves, and, like the collar, the cuffs and muff are of rich brown ing bit of color is given the fur hat by the orange aples just in the front.

It seems to me as I travel from London to Paris and Paris to Switzerland that while everyone wears furs no two people wear them in the same fashion. And no one wears them in the former orthodox manner. Verily, there are times when lady looks as though she would lose her lovely scarves, so delicately are they placed over one shoulder or

half way down her back.

However, there are some who literally fold themselves in their bosom or scarves, and I am sending you a picture of a matched skunk scarf which explains 'this very new and modish fashion. The stole is broad and flat; it is made entirely of skunk fur matched in a curious way and folded across the wearer's body

in the front; the two ends are fastened together well below the waist in the back. It is all finished with dark brown velvet frills.

The muff matches the wrap, but shows no velvet frills. And it's time to write of other things, of hats, for instance, and veils, and I have good news from Paris about both these fascinating

"Lucile" Coat of Ermine and Broadtail. Little Hat of Black Broadtail.

Exquisite "Lucile" Costume of Moleskin Dyed Rich Purple.



Newest Fur Costume of Matched Skunk Scarves and Dark Brown Velvet.

articles of feminine apparel.

At last the black velvet hat has a rival—a formidable and fascinating rival—which is going to relieve the world of women from what was rapidly becoming a mania of monotony.

The appearance—or, rather, the re-appearance—of black panne as a millennial material is really very

welcome, even on the score of variety. But it further has lightness of effect, and actual weight also, to recommend it, and, somehow, too, its softly shining surface gives a special smartness not only to the hat, but also to the whole toilette, and keeps this smartness unimpaired, even after a long morning's shopping, or walking, or driving, which would reduce the black velvet hat to a disfiguring monument of dust!

That is indeed—and of course—the one disadvantage of the black velvet hat—it is a veritable magnet for every speck of dust and it also has a fatal facility for getting shiny and shabby at the edges.

You see we can dare to realize and admit its 'ultra now' that we have the chance of choosing something else—and sometimes better, too!

Very unfair, perhaps—but also very human! And really the new black panne hats are irresistibly attractive. They are always most moderate in size and their little brims should take a slight boat-shaped curve upward at the right side. The turn-up on the left side is no longer the essence of smartness. And they are trimmed in any number of different ways, though the general effect arrived at is of extreme simplicity.

For instance, just one butterfly, with gold-dusted wings, will have alighted by some happy accident on one side of the crown of such a hat, whose possessor will of a surety be so well pleased with the resulting piquancy—and admiration—of her headgear that she will be not one whit envious of her possibly more fortunate—and certainly more moneyed—rival whose panne hat is entirely surrounded by curling and costly aigrettes!

Moreover, if she be really well informed and up to date she will see to it that the butterfly on her hat is not left to lead a lonely life, but that it will have the comfort and companionship of one of its kind, as more or less—faithfully portrayed on the veil!

For, yes, this is the latest and daintiest device for the adornment of the very clear and fine-meshed veils which fashion is now favoring and which will be a real relief to eyes tired out and strained and dazzled by

the maddening devices of the lace veil.

The butterfly is very lightly worked in black chenille on either black or faintly pink net and, of course, its most correct, or, at any rate, most captivating, position will be close by one corner of a red, curved mouth—how many there will then be to envy that happily placed butterfly!

The "beauty spot" veil—with its single black velvet patch—is also in high favor just now on account of its similar and distinctly provocative possibilities, and I foresee for it a much more continued and universal vogue than for that other novelty, the "Harem" veil, which, as its name suggests, takes the yashmak for its model. For just over the eyes it is of the clearest and finest net, the meshes there being rounded, while here on its broad bordering of square-meshed net many little black velvet spots are showered. So that the woman with fine eyes as her only attraction will for once fear no rivalry from the most perfectly featured beauty whose orbs are somewhat less bright and magnetic.

And now as regards other people's doings and dresses, in connection with the latest black and white craze. I notice any number of new models are being made in the softest possible black moire, the skirts being draped in many different ways but with always the same resulting effect of silhouetting the figure with even more than the usual closeness. One rather charming and quite novel scheme is the arranging of the knee-deep tunic in a series of deep points or scallops. The underskirt being, as a matter of fact, pleated, though you only discover that it is not quite plain.

When you look into it closely or when the wearer walks, as the folds are held down so closely and flatly. As regards a finish for the corsage, a double and upstanding frill of white tulle is most frequently and fascinatingly in evidence and is often carried right down to the waistline, narrowing as it goes. And in between there will be crossed-over folds of the soft white fabric, against which there may well stand out in bold and beautiful relief a pink mallow carnation, or a white gardenia guarded by its glossy green leaves. This particular and pretty flower—a great favorite of mine always—being the chosen and chic trimming for some of the latest Paris creations in the way of hats.

One which I saw and admired the other day was of the now most favored medium size, the brim taking a bold upward sweep at the left side and coming well down over the other ear—and eye. It was in quite a new and very smooth and shiny make of black straw, and the gardenias were set midway about the fairly high crown, full-blown blossoms, buds and leaves being very artistically grouped together on an encircling fold of black moire ribbon.

My Secrets of Beauty—By Mme Lina Cavalieri.

The Most Famous Living Beauty

How to Make the Mouth Beautiful.

WHILE the mouth is one of the most beautiful and traitful features, it is also one of the most neglected. It has more bad habits than the eyes, is more sensitive than the complexion, more susceptible to training than the nose, or far less sturdy fibre than the hair.

The lips require educating, and I shall tell you to-day how to educate them. It is well at the beginning to erect the danger signals. Don't fall into the bad habit of pressing the lips firmly together. Persons of especially determined character are likely to press the lips firmly together to express their determination. Others assume that virtue if they have it not and imitate their firm-willed friends and enemies in this respect.

But from the standpoint of beauty, it is always a mistake to firmly close the lips. They should be as lightly closed as possible. As gently as one rose petal meets another the upper lip should lie upon the lower. "Make this one of your beauty resolutions: 'I will never tightly close my lips,' an Italian author wrote in the Middle Ages. Ah, yes. They were interested in the theme of how to become beautiful and how to remain so even then. "The lips should seldom be actually closed. To be lovely the mouth should habitually disclose five teeth," advised the great Italian.

There is, of course, a sanitary side of the subject, and on that side of beauty we show ourselves the wisest than the ancients and the beauty culturists of the Middle Ages, bit, and so get into the blood stream, through the nose, which is protected by a hairy barricade that snares in dust, but by the mouth, which has



"Give great care to training the corners of the mouth upward."

may be said of the teeth is that they check an invasion, but cannot wholly resist it.

For this reason train the lips to close when in any danger of infection. Walking one day last summer along one of the wide stone roads in the chateau country in France I was struck with the strange manner of a young woman who accompanied me. Our chat was at full flood when suddenly she became silent. I looked inquiringly at her. She laid her finger on her lip. I continued to talk. She shook her head, tapped her forehead warningly against her lips and again shook her head.

"Have you gone suddenly mad?" I asked. At that she pressed her finger on my mouth and locking an arm in mine hastened my steps. When we had walked five minutes she released me and smiled.

"Perhaps you will explain," said I. "Certainly," she said. "The little house near the road is quarantined. I happened to see the scarlet fever flag. Disease germs cannot enter the mouth that is closed."

Her discretion may have saved both our lives.

I have learned not to habitually use tooth powders. They are so drastic in their action that they "pucker" the lips and eventually destroy their beauty by causing them to be dry and shrivelled. I use tooth powders only twice a week, as one gives the house a thorough weekly sweeping and dusting. For the ordinary daily cleaning I use a good tooth paste in the evening, a liquid dentifrice in the morning, and after each meal I rinse the mouth with strong salt water, or with warm water into which I have sprinkled a few drops of liquid dentifrice.

Indeed I should be well satisfied to use salt water for the morning cleanings of the mouth and teeth. Strong salt water, at least one fifth salt to

four-fifths warm water, will kill all bacteria in the mouth. If the mouth be feverish, frequent mouth baths, say about six a day, will sterilize it. Bicarbonate of soda, a spoonful to a glass of water, is another good mouth bath as well as dentifrice.

In the education of the mouth, give great care to training the corners of the mouth upward. This can be done by practicing before the mirror those expressions which train the mouth to curve upward. A London beauty was famous for the beauty of her expression, especially the ethereal, innocent lines of her mouth. She said the secret of this exquisite expression, which subtracted ten years from her apparent age, was that she repeated many times a day the formula, "Please, papa, prunes and prisms." Practice of this foolish phrase will not only lift the corners of the lips, but will loosen them if tightly closed and allow them to fall into easy lines.

You have often heard "That girl is very pretty until she opens her mouth. Then all her beauty flies." That is not alone because the girl has neglected her teeth. Perhaps she hasn't. It may mean that she has acquired bad habits of speaking. She may have the mannerism of seeming to fill the mouth with air and speaking with explosive force. Or she may muffle her words, speaking as though her mouth were filled with flannel. Or she may stretch the mouth widely or ridiculously purse it.

No mouth is attractive if the lips be dry and hard. Soften and moisten them with frequent and plentiful applications of cold cream. In cold weather, if they show a disposition to crack, soften them with a lip salve.